PRICE In St. Louis, One Cent.
Outside St. Louis, Two Cents.
On Trains, Three Cents.

NAVY CONTRACTS FOR ELEVEN SHIPS OF WAR.

ers Are to Be Built at Once.

HIGHEST TYPES KNOWN.

Vessels Will Be Superior in Armament and Speed to Any Afloat.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Never since the

→ most efficient vessels of their types
→ birth of the new nevy has there been such
→ affoat. a gathering of shipbuilders and metal kings as were assembled in the office of the | • nts, New Jersey, Georgia, Virginia • Secretary of the Navy at noon to-day to | ♦ and Rhode Island. witness the opening of bids for an amount of naval construction which Secretary Long denominated as the greatest industrial event this or any other country had ever seen, involving the placing of contracts for about \$50,000,000.

The Secretary left the Cabinet meeting for the purpose of presiding at the ceremony. Associated with him were the chiefs of the great naval bureaus, Admiral Hichborn, Admiral Melville, Admiral O'Nelli and others. Among the spectators were Henry Scott, Charles and Edwin Cramp, Mr. Trigg of the Richmond Locomotive Works, President Morse, Manager Newman and John Lindsay of the New York Shipbullding Company, the new Delaware River concern; Manager Clark of the Miles Tool Company; Louis Nixon of the Crescent works, President Olcott, Judge Payson and Manager Post of the Newport News works, F. O. Wellington and M. T. of the Fore River works of President Taylor and Mr. Tarbett of the

Risdon Shipbuilding Company, John Dia-logue of Camden and a number of others identified with shipbuilding. Small Concerns to the Front. There were eight bidders, and most of the blds were well within the limit of cost allowed by Congress for the ships. The no-table feature was the attempt on the part the younger and smaller concerns to break the line of the old organizations which have constructed all of the heavy vissels of the new may up to this time. While it is not possible at this moment to forecast results accurately, there are in-dications that in at least one instance, and perhaps two instances, these attempts will be attended with some degree of success, for it looks as though some of the work will be bestowed upon the Fere River company, which appears for the first time as a bidder for constructing armored ships. The Pacific Coast, too, presents a likely candidate in the Morans' bid. Because of changes made in the specifications by the bidders, the general tendency of which is to reduce considerably the equipment of the ships, it is not possible yet to tell which of the bids are actually the lowest.

As they read, they are as follows: Armored Craisers.

Union Iron Works, San Francisco sheathed and coppered, \$2,800,000; one with-out sheathing, \$3,750,000; another under the same conditions, \$3,750,000. William Cramp & Sons, Philadelphia, one sheathed, but uncoppered, \$3,890,000; oncun-

Newport News Shipbuilding Company, sheathed and coppered, \$5.885,000; one-out sheathing, \$5.775,000; this for two Moran Bros. & Co., Scattle, Wash., one sheathed and coppered, \$4,152,000; or two at

983,000, or two at \$3,844,000 each.
Fore River Shipbuilding and Locemative

Works, Quincy, Mass., one sheathed and coppered, \$3,975,000, or two at \$2,855,000 each; without sheathing, one for \$3,800,000. r two at \$3,775,000 each. ne bid also is made for two more

ships at the same price and under the same conditions under the act of 1800. The preceding bidders, Moran & Bros. and the News company, made similar

John Dialogue & Son., Camden, N. J., one unsheathed, \$3,825.000; another under the act | guns. of 1900 at the same price.

Five Battleships and Six Cruis- WHAT NAVY'S LARGEST . CONTRACT CALLS FOR.

Kitchener: "We'll eat that historical Pretoria Christmas dinner this year."

Aggregate displacement-151,000 tons. • Average speed of battleships-19

Average speed of cruisers-22 knots. ♦ inch guns, four 5-inch guns, twelve ♦ 6-inch rapid-fire guns, tweive four-• teen-pounders and twelve two pound- • ers, in addition to a number of pneu-

 matic guns.
 Armament of cruisers—Four 8-inch guns, four 6-inch guns and ten 6-inch . • broadside guns, besides the usual • · second battery.

Battleships and cruisers to be the .

Names of battleships-Pennsylva-

E+++++++++++++ Francisco, one without sheathing, \$4,075,000.

Buttleships. Cramp & Sons, one sheathed and cop-

Cost of shine-150 000 000

Newport News Company, one sheathed and coppered, \$3,593.610; one unsheathed, \$3,-

Fore River Works, one for \$2.580,000, or two for \$3.55,000 each, all sheathed and coppered. Without sheathing, one for \$3.430,000 two for \$3.45,000 each. A bid also is submitted for two more at the same prices under the set of 1909.

John H. Dislogue & Son, one sheathed and coppered, \$3,400,000; one without sheathing, \$1,200,000; another at the same figure under

Bath Iron Works, one sheathed and coppered, \$3,500,000.

New York Shipbuilding Company, one

sheathed and coppered, \$4,200,000, or two at \$4,175,000 each. Without sheathing, one for \$4,100,000, or two for \$4,000,000 each. This firm offers to reduce the time limit of com-pletion six months.

Moran Bros. & Co., Seattle, Wash., one sheathed and coppered, \$2,885,000 or two at \$2,745,000 each. Without sheathing, one for \$1,597,000, or two for \$1,586,000 each. Bids also are made for two more at the same price, under the act of 1990. This firm also offers to reduce the limit about six months Union Iron Works, one unsheathed, \$2,-

Board to Consider Blds.

A naval board will consider the bids and port upon them. The acts of Congress cost of the cruisers to \$3.550 oor each, and of the battleships to \$4,200,000

Secretary Long expressed himself as far as he could perceive it from the hours reading of the bles. He felt that on the

whole they were very liberal.

The five new battleships, namely the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Virginia, and Rhode Island, are divided into two classes to compromise upon the controversy as to their turest systems. Those are to be sheathed and coppered and will carry superimposed furiets; the other (we) are to be unsheathed vessels, having the quadrilateral arrangement of 8-inch turrets each case for bot hshrathed and unsheathed

Best Fighters Affont.

The shouthed vessels are to be of 15,00 tons displacement, with a length of to feet, breadth of 76 feet D inches, and greats or draft of 25 feet. The unsheathed shins are slightly smaller, and on the same each: one without sheathing, \$3,- | length are seven and one-half inches narrower and 40 tons less displacement.

Both classes of battleships will compare with any in the world, not only affont, but

projected; for they will have a speed of at least nineteen knots, which is expected to run up to nineteen and one-half knots a great pace for a battleship, which will be mointained by twin-screw engines of 18.00 horse power, supplied by twenty-four water-tube boilers.

The radical difference in the battleshlos the outward appearance will lie in the turrets. Each ship will carry four 12-inch

LEADING TOPICS TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

Saturday. Sunday, fair; winds shifting to fresh southerly. For Illinois-Fair, warmer Saturday. Sauday, fair; winds shifting to fresh southerly.

Relief Bill Passed by Council.

2. Debate on Exposition Bill. Porto Ricans Now in Arizona Hawes Says It is Up to Higgins.

2. Dairymen's Union Not Recognized Pioneer Liveryman Passes Away Temperance Union Branch Launched. Admits He Pobbed Himself Fireman Came to Boarder's Regene. Wants President to Serve Six Years.

Virgin Gold Found in Arkanses. 4. Opposition to Hay Canal Treaty. Y. M. C. A. Report. Would-Re Bride Took Her Cat. Society Girls Fice From Grand Jury.

One Governor to Rule South Africa. 6. Cullom's Chances Appear Bright, Government Not in Warehouse Business

Growth of Small Towns of Missourk 6. Ellers Expelled From Washington. Miss Drew After Jeffries.

Four American Jockeys Return. L. Hishon Potter on Love of Money The House That Stands in Middle of the

. Editorial. St. Louis Women's Clubs.

Enchre Parties in Sherry's. 9. Notable Additions to Books on China. Through Skylight Into Basement. Tries to Soothe Party III Will. Bullet Pierced His Friend's Heart.

o, Church News and Announcements. Sunday S hool Lesson.

11. New Ideas in Winter Gowns Illustrated. Home and Fashion Topics. 12. Republic Went Advertisements Record of Births, Marriages, Deaths,

New Corporations. 12. Republic Want Advertisements House Passed Oleo Bill. House Passed Oleo Bill Rathbone's Shortage Considerable.

Portugal Offends Holland. 14. Grain and Produce.

Cattle Sales.

River Telegrama 16, Old Clown Does Stants for Hospital Patients.

Ordnance Bureau, and superior in efficiency to any 12-inch gun in the world, and at least equal to the 13-then guns which have marked the maximum callber in the Amer

lean Navy.

In the three sheathed vessels a pair of Sinch cans will be mounted on the top of each of the 12-inch turrets. Four other S-inch gaws will be distributed in two tur-

The unsheathed vessels will have all of their eight 8-inch guns mounted in four independent turrets, one placed at each coner of the oblong superstructure. Both classes of vessels—sheathed and unsheathed will have a broadside of twelve 6-inch pounders and a number of automatic guns. making the battery more formidable than any affoat as far as ability to concentrate fire and throw weight of metal is con-

In the matter of defensive power, the battleships of both classes are unsurpassed, carrying an 8-foot-wide water-line belt of armor 11 inches thick, ever the vitals of the ship, tapering to 4 inches at the ends. The 5-inch guns will be placed behind the protection of 6 inches of solid hardened steel and the turrets will vary from 10 to 11 inche

A curved turtle-back protective deck, and a coffernam bolt all around the water line, stuffed with cellulose, will afford further Electricity will be used in the battleships insheathed, \$2,825.00); another under the act guns. These are of the extraordinary to much greater extent than in any other strips afford, and the used in the battle-ships to much greater extent than in any other ships afford, and the use of wood will be restricted to the minimum.

COUNCIL PASSES A RELIEF BILL.

Deficits and Debts of Eleemosynary Institutions.

GENERAL TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

Measure Is Railroaded Through-Mr. Hoffman Calls Attention to the Lighting Depart ment's Appropriation,

Council yesterday afterneon sent to emgrossment and subsequently paried a bill with an amendment for the temporary relief of the electrosynary institutions and the municipal departments that have been confronted with deficits in the appropria tions for articles of necessity. The bill designates the new relief appropriation and the amendment provides for the transfer of money to meet the emergency.

The original bill was presented in the City Council a week ago by Mr. Carroll, chairman of the Ways and Means Commit ee, in "skeleton" form. Mr. Carroll insert bill came up for second rending, and moved that the rules be suspended and the measurement are sent to engrossment. He was support ed by Captain Hodges, the former chair-

man of the same committee. man of the same committee.

The bill makes the following additional appropriations: City Posnital, \$3.669; Poorhouse, \$2.859; Insane Asylum, \$1,549; Quarantine and Smallnox Hospital, \$1,690; House of Refuge, \$1,590; Coroner, \$450; morgue, \$200; Boiler Inspector, \$400, and the president's department of the Board of Public Inspectories, \$177.42. Total, \$12.177.42.

In order to render fluorical assistance to these departments and institutions, funds

these departments and institutions, funds were transferred as follows: From the Fire Department, \$5,500; Recorder of Deeds, \$400; Marshal, \$100; City Dispensary, \$900; City Hall, \$27.76; Municipal Assembly, \$78.63, and from the current expense accounts of the Mayor, Comptroller and other officials.

\$1.000. Total, \$9.026.29.

Mr. Carroll stated that the sam of \$3.500 taken from the Fire Department is from the salary account and \$2.00) from the fund allotted for the care and shoeing of horses the transfers from the Marshal's office and Recorder of Deeds are from salary appro-Recorder of Deeds are from salary appropriations, the \$90 acquired from the City Dispensary is deducted from the fend for extra physicians, the City Hall transfer is from the salaries for engineers and coalpassers, the Municipal Assembly transfer is from the appropriation for furnishing new quarters, and the other transfer is from the current expense account of other departments.

the current expense account of other departments.

Mr. Hoffman remarked that he understood the appropriation for lighting public buildings will have been exhausted in February and the institutions will be in darkness if provisions be not made "If you believe everything you see in the Democratic papers," said Mr. Carroli, "you'll think the country is going to the devil, and the city with it." "I read it in a Republican paper, also," replied Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Carroli declared the urgency of passing the bill, as amended, and the Council complied, also unanimously voting a reconsideration of the motion.

HARVARD WINS IN DEBATE.

Scores Her Third Consecutive Victory Over Yale.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 7 .- Victory in de bate came to Harvard for the third consecutive time against Yale in the intercollegiate series, at Sanders Theater to-night By brilliancy of speech and logic in argument, brilliancy of speech and logic in argument, Harvard overpowered her opponent and received the major share of applause from the audience. In her main arguments Harvard was superior and her rebuttal was so strong that Yale could make little headway against it, although striving hard to tear down the constructive case. The best speaking for Harvard was by Roscoe Conking Ernee, who won the Coolidge prize in the trial debate, and, singularly, the leader on the Yale side was Frank H. Sincrebeaux, who won the Thatcher prize at his college. The question debated was:

"Resolved, That the permanent retention of the Philippine Islands by the United States is desirable."

Harvard had the affirmative, and her case was substantially put together, while Yale's permitted was constructively were

Marvard had the ammatuve, and her case was substantially put together, while Yale's negative was constructively weak.

The judges—Honorable Whilam ft. Horn-blower of New York, Judge Addison Brown of the United States District Court, and Mr. Oscar S. Strauss, United States Minuster to Turkey—were in conference haif an hour before giving the decision in Harvard's fevor.

Harvard was represented in the debate

by Murray Seasongood. Henry Porter Chandler and Roscoe C. Bruce, Vale's speakers were F. M. Sincerbeaux, Charles Wolcott Merriam and Mason Trowbridge. FULL CREDIT NO POWER'S.

Diplomat Says Each Nation Yield-

ed Something in China. Berlin, Dec. 7 .- With reference to the Berlin, Dec. 7.—With reference to the reductions that are associated with whole-news communicated from London that an sale purchases.

"It is, indeed," the report reads, "a most agreement has been reached at Pekin, a

count von Buelow, Imperial Chancellor, said this evening:

"The report is correct, but there are still some minor points unsettled. It was clear from the first that the note formulated by the foreign envoys in Pekin would not be accepted, inasmuch as the United States disavowed Mr. Conger instantly and Russia raised some formal objections. Now that the envoys are agreed, and the note is acceptable to the United States, there should

are and harmony.
"They altered the note to meet the views of the United States. It is to be hoped that the fact that Germany has gone so far in coraplying with the wishes of the United tates will meet with recognition in Amer-

SAYS OUR CONDUCT IS WORSE.

Timothy Healy Compares Soldiers' Acts in Luzon and South Africa. London, Dec. 7 .- During the discussion of affairs in South Africa, in the House of Commons this afternoon, Mr. Timothy Healy, Nationalist member for North Louth, warned the Boers against accepting

He said it was a question whether it was not better to be a dead Boer than a British subject, but he declared that he did not believe the conduct of the British soldier a South Africa had been as black as that of the American in the Philippines.

Accepts Invitation to Attend a

John Jay Banquet. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 7.-General Fitz- unfairly conducted. hugh Lee, commander of the Department of the Commercial Club to be its guest at of the Commercial Class to be its guest at a John Jay banquet to be held in this city on December 19. Other speakers will be National Committeeman William J. Stone of Missouri, Charles L. Gieed of Kansas, and the Reverend E. F. Trefz of Omaha.

In the Commercial Class to be its guest at the evidence of sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of the Reverence of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of the Committee of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of Sufficient strength, to the Circuit Court, to warrant the claim of fraud or unfairness, and such a contingue of Sufficient Sufficient

CHARGES AGAINST F. C. MEIER AND HIS DEPUTY, GEORGE MARTIN.

Result of Investigation of Suppy Commissioner's Office.

REPORTIN COUNCIL

That Body Will Conduct Trial of Accused Officials.

METHODS DENOUNCED.

Charge Neglect of Duty Against Meier; Attempted Extortion Against Martin.

After working at intervals since July 2 ast, the special committee of the City foundi appointed to investigate into the comed appointed to investigate into the management of the department of the Commissioner of Supplies yesterday afternoon submitted its report, through its chairman, Charles Wiggins, giving the history of its labors and formally preferring chargest against Supply Commissioner Frederick C. Meier and his chief deputy, George H. Martin, and recommending that both he tried by the Commissioner.

the Council.

Three specifications are recited against Commissioner of Supplies Meter, all under the caption of neglect of duty. The first is that he failed or neglected to advertise for proposals for the furnishing of articles called for in a requisition when the amount to be purchased exceeded \$100 for one articles.

purchase of 550 blankets on September 5, 1800, for \$512, the articles to be used in the Cay Hospital. The second specification is made on the same grounds, the purchase taking place on the same date, when 150 blankets were bought for the Poorhouse. The third specification is that he failed to advertise for proposals for certain pur-chases in August, 1900, and that he made certain purchases without baving adver-tised, as required by ordinance, the omis-sion being construed as a breach of duty.

same month, with the same firm, Martin offering, it is charged, to give the firm a portion of the city's business if the firm would pay him a commission or discount of 19 per cent. The third charge is that he suggested the purchasing of supplies from firm at prices greater than could be procured in the open market, provided the arm would agree to tender him a discount or

commission of 10 per cent. Enumerating the events and occurrences in detail with dates and names and figures. the committee advises that the Supply Commissioner and the Deputy Supply Com-missioner be tried by the Council. To support the different charges the committee returned to the Council a mass of evidence embraced in 500 typewritten pages, com-prising all the testimony heard at the serons of the committee.

On motion of Mr. Wiggins, seconded by Mr. Kratz, the report was unanimously adopted, and on motion of Mr. Richards, seconded by Captain Hodges, it was decided to withhold the testimony from the official published proceedings of the Council. Mr. Richards moved that the stenographer's bills, amounting to \$824.19, be paid from the Council's contingent fund. The motion prevailed, Mr. Gast alone going on record in the negative. President Meter was in

LOOSE METHODS IN

BUYING SUPPLIES CITED.

In the preamble preceding the statement of the specific charges the committee refers to the ordinance requiring efficials to make requisitions at the beginning of each month for supplies that will be needed in the next thirty days, believing that the object of the ordinance is and was to consolidate the items in one advertisement in order to purchase the articles in one lot and thus acquire

high official of the German Foreign Office, surprising reflection on the efficiency and inwho is empowered to speak in the name of telligence of the various Mayors, Comptrol-Count von Buelow, Imperial Chancellor, lers, Supply Commissioners, and, in fact, all

the envoys are agreed, and the note is ac-ceptable to the United States, there should be no exultation, as if the other Powers that be no exultation, as if the other Powers and bowed to the will of one nation. All were free to take whatever course they chose, and they chose in the interest of lastnaces of contractors being permitted. instances of contractors being permitted

> comply with numicipal requirements, are also mentioned.
> The committee found that an inferio

to lid on contracts contrary to the spirit of the ordinances, after baving failed to

PROCEDURE IN TRIAL OF THE MEN.

Chairman Wiggins of the Investigating committee said last night that the charges against Mr. Meler would be followed up by a trial before the Council as a whole, as provided in the State and city laws. First a copy of the charges and specifica-tions will be served on the Supply Commissioner, and he will be given reasonable time which to prepare his defense. Then the Meier will be permitted to engage a lawyer to represent him at the trial, and the Cit Counselor, or one of his assistants, will a pear for the city. The whole Council will LEE TO SPEAK AT KANSAS CITY. sit as a jury; and the proceedings will be in the nature of a regular court trial. If the Council finds Mr. Meter guilty of

the charges, it will order his rem the defendant can prove that the trial was in the event that he should seek to fight the finding of the Council and retain his

office, it will be necessary for him to sub-nit evidence of sufficient strength, to the



office, embodying three specifications, a using him or attempted exterion, made by the special fracting-ting Co

him is more serious than that against Heler is charged, and the Council can inflict no greater punishment on him than on Mr. Meler.

Meler
E. F. W. Meier, President of the City
Council and father of Supply Commissioner
F. C. Meier, said last night that his son
was at a huming chab in Illiands, beyond
the reach of hisphone or telegraph, and
that he would not return until to-day some
that he would not return until to-day some
time. F. C. Meler ordered his horse and
bring early yesterdey afternoon, saying he



Fresident Meier and he had never dis-cursed the charges with his son, and old not know what defense or explanation he

COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND TEXT OF CHARGES

Following is the teport of the committee, with the charges against Mesers, Meier and

Martin:

chases in August, 1900, and that he made certain purchases without baving advertised as required by ordinance, the omission being construed as a breach of duty. SERIOUS ACCISATIONS

AGAINST DEPUTY MARTIX.

Against Deputy Supply Commissioner Martin three specifications are filed under the charge "misconduct in office." The first is designated "attempted extortion," the second an "attempt to secure or extort a bribe."

The first accusation made is that Martin, in February of this year, requested of the dry goods firm of Stix, Baer & Fuller a discount of 10 per cent for the purpose of retaining the discount for his own use. The second specification is based on a transaction said to have taken place in the sum of the first sum of the charges against such official, together with sum of the charges against such official, together with sum of the first successful on the same firm, Martin the charge that the commissioner of Supplies, and into the connection which any chart has been supplies for any depart, and the third any first is designated "attempted extortion," the second an "attempt to extort a bribe."

The first accusation made is that Martin, in February of this year, requested of the dry goods firm of Stix, Baer & Fuller a discount of 10 per cent for the purpose of retaining the discount for his own use. The second specification uses a sum of the content of th " Pessived, That the committee of this Council

"At the meeting July 2 the resolution was unanimously adopted, and the following members were appointed to serve on the committee: Messrs. Wiggins, Hodges,

Kratz, Meysenburg and Hoffmann. At the committee's first meeting Mr. Wiggins was elected chairman.

"The duties of the office of Commissioner

of Supplies are, stated briefly, as follows: "The office of the Commissioner of Suppiles was created by the Charter, evidently to the end that purchases made for articles needed by the several departments and institutions might be so made as to secure the greatest economy, by concentrating the entire business in the hands of one responsible officer, who is required to devote all his time and energies to his duties. The

duties of the office are defined in section 24 of article iv of the Charter, as:

"He is to purchase all articles n-eded by the city departments; purchases are to be mane under contracts for all articles, so far as practicable, contracts to be let as directed by ordinance; purchases made without advertising for proposals must be approved by the Compression and the manner in which contracts are to be let a recombined.

The Municipal Assembly, acting under its powers conferred by the Charter, has established ordinance provisions to guide and control the Commissioner of Supplies, which ordinance provisions are contained in chapter by of Revised Ordinances 1899,

sections to to 64. ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN

"Immediately after its appointment your committee proceeded on its duty and sum-moned the heads of departments and city institutions, together with their subordimoned the means of the substitutions, together with their substitutions from whom they had fore the left of each month, make an estim what articles are required for use in the particular together could be obtained.

ng nearly 500 typewritten pages, which we ! herewith submit as a part of this report. upon the efficiency and intellisence herewith submit as a part of this report. Upon the emiciency and internsence of the An examination of the testimony will distantiant Mayors, Comptrollers, Supply Comcione the fact that during the first four or missioners, and, in fact, all officers of the five months of Mr. Meier's administration there was a vast number of irregularities, the last twenty-we years, that an ordinance on the part of these from whom supplies were purchased to obtain excessive prices.

As a rule, the heads of the various instisupplies, that regulations for the thirty tutions and departments seemed to have days succeeding the first of each month been on the mert, and a great number of should be number should be number should be consolidated by the Commissions. tention of the Supply Commissioner called stener of Supplies in an advertisement into the excessive charges. In every inviting dealers to bid upon the different arto the excessive charges. In every in-stance he succeined their action, and in nest cases reductions were obtained.

"Where purchases are made without ad-ertisement, it is provided that the requisiquantity of coal was persistently delivered at certain city institutions, despite the pro-tests of the officials in charge of the buildinguard to the city's interests, but it is manifest to your committee that it creates division of responsibility, and that it is physical impossibility for the Comptroller with his office as now constituted, to exer-tive intelligent supervision over such pur chases, and that in most instances his ap-proval is merely perfunctory.

CARELESSNESS IN

"It appears from the testimony that the quality of coal furnished to the city institutions, notably the Poorhouse, was very inferior; that the same was rejected repeatedly by the superintendent, Section 22%, Revised Ordinances, provides that "when the Commissioner of Supplies finds any party engaged in selling or delivering any article advertising, a large saving could have to the city, who has failed or refused to becamade, as it was developed by testicised Ordinances, provides that "when the comply with the terms of his contract or agreement, or when a party fails to make restitution to the city for any loss the city has met by failure or neglect on his part to comply with the terms of his agreement. to comply with the terms of his agreement, then the Commissi per of Supplies, with the consent and approval of the Mayor, shall decline to receive any further hids from said party for any articles to be furnished

Notwithstanding the attention of the Supply Commissioner was called to this matter, the same contractor was one of the successful bidders last summer, and was Continued, Page Two, Second Column

proved by the Mayor. Other parties, whose bills were repeat-elly rejected on account of overcharges, were permitted to continue furnishing sup-

would result, not only in coal, but in other supplies furnished by weight APPARENT FAVORITISM "It appears to some of the members of in the selection of some of the dealers from whom supplies were purchased. However,

this custom has been prevalent long prior to the appointment of the present Commis-Moner of Supplies.
"After attention had been directed to irregularities in the office of Commission Supplies by the newspapers, together with the report of the February (1900) Grand the report of the February (1900) Grand Jury, the Comptroller required that there-after a schedule of approximate prices should accompany each regulation, and much good resulted therefrom. During the

few months preceding the closing testimony taken by your committee, but few complaints were made of excessive charges. "The new requirement of the Comptro however, shifts the responsibility from the Commissioner of Supplies, where it belongs, to the heads of the various departments and institutions, and in the opinion of your com-mittee additional safeguards are required. IMPORTANT ORDINANCE

IGNORED BY OFFICERS. "The most astonishing development con-ected with our investigation has been the fact that the most important ordinance pro-vision relating to the purchase of supplies has been totally ignored by all officers of the city government for a period of more than

twenty-two years, "On the 14th of June, 1878, the following ordinance was adopted, and it will be fou in the Revised Ordinances of 1892, under sec-tion 10,757, Monicipal Code, section 1610, and

"It is, indeed, a most surprising reflection Taking advantage of his inexperience and that of his newly appointed subordinates, there seems to have been a general effort looked. It is plainly manifest that it was the

> ticles designated. Your committee believes that if the provisions of the ordinance had been rigidly enforced, at least 25 per cent of the supplies would have been purchased under competitive bids, and that an enormous saving would have been the result.

> ELIMINATED IN PURCHASES. "Instead of complying with the law, we find that between 8,000 and 12,000 requisitions pass through the office of the Supply C multislener annually, and that practically the only advertising for supplies which has been done by the Commissioner of Supplies such as coal, ice, greceries, etc., but that dry goods, bardware, etc., aggregating many thousands of dollars in value, have been bought in the open market, prac-tically without competition, and in direct

'We believe that if ordinary business mony (that a customer having a rut account as large as many of those of the city with regular business houses, could easily have obtained a discount CHARGES AGAINST

COMMISSIONER AND DEPUTIES. "The most rigid investigation has failed to show that the Commissioner of Sup-plies has personally profited by any of the irregularities developed. Your committee, however, feels that public servants should at all times be held to a strict accountabil-

violation of the spirit of the ordinances